

FACSIMILE COVER PAGE

To : Attorney General John Ashcroft

From : Jeffrey R Tidwell

Sent : 1/20/02 at 4:52:40 PM

Pages : 2 (including Cover)

Subject : Microsoft Settlement

1538 East Lee Street
Camden, South Carolina 29020

January 18, 2002

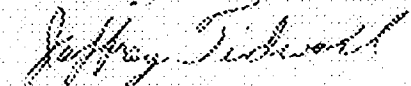
Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

This letter is to express my endorsement of your decision to settle with Microsoft in the antitrust case. The settlement will bring an end to three years of court conflict that has cost both sides dearly in resources. Microsoft is one of our nations most pioneering companies and should be able to return its focus to business. The settlement is equitable, and will open up the IT industry by allowing companies to have unprecedented access to Microsoft's code and operating systems. With this information competitors will have a better chance against Microsoft.

Special interests with anti-Microsoft bias may try to hinder and delay the settlement and have this case re-opened. These interests should be repelled and this case finished at the federal level. I support the settlement, and look forward to the end of this case.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey Tidwell

cc: Senator Strom Thurmond